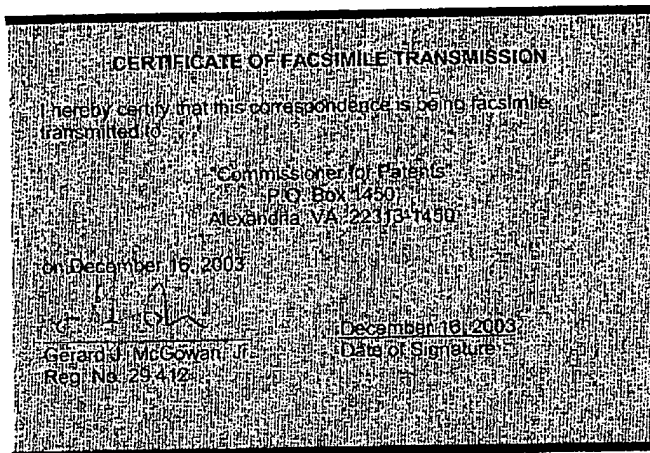


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DEC 16 2003

OFFICIAL**PATENT**UNUS #01-0367-UNI
CASE #F7590(V)**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Van Oorschot et al.
Serial No.: 10/072,570
Filed: February 8, 2002
For: Process for the Preparation of One or More Statins by Fermentation
Group: 1617
Examiner: Edward A. Webman
Edgewater, New Jersey 07020

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 16, 2003, a two month extension of time for response for which is being requested, please consider the following response.

Provisional Election